

Appln. No.: 10/775,912
Docket No.: 14XZ133155/GEM-0124

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REMARKS

The claims stand restricted as follows:

- A. Species of Figure 4.
- B. Species of Figure 5.
- C. Species of Figure 6.
- D. Species of Figure 7.
- E. Species of Figure 9.
- F. Species of Figure 10.

Applicant hereby elects Species-A, Figure 4, *with traverse*, respectfully traversing the Election / Restriction requirement for the following reasons.

Group I:

Applicant submits that Species A and B are directed to similar subject matter, and therefore a search for one species will necessarily overlap a search for the other.

At paragraph [0023], Applicant states that the embodiment of Figure 5 is an adaptive embodiment of that of Figure 4.

At paragraph [0071], relating to Figure 5, Applicant states that a driving equation relating to Figure 5 is similar to that of driving equation (1), which relates to Figure 4.

At paragraph [0077], relating to Figure 5, Applicant states that a driving equation relating to Figure 5 is similar to that of driving equation (3), which relates to Figure 4.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Species A and B are so drawn to similar subject matter that a search and examination of the application including Species A and B may be made without serious burden to the Examiner. Accordingly, restriction with respect to Species A and B for examination purposes is improper.

Group II:

Applicant further submits that Species C and D are directed to similar subject matter, and therefore a search for one species will necessarily overlap a search for the other.

At paragraph [0025], Applicant states that the embodiment of Figure 7 is an adaptive embodiment of that of Figure 6.

At paragraph [0089], relating to Figure 7, Applicant states that Figure 7 depicts an

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alternative to that depicted in Figure 6.

At paragraph [0090], relating to Figure 7, Applicant states that steps (a), (b), (c) and (e) remain the same as those of Figure 6.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Species C and D are so drawn to similar subject matter that a search and examination of the application including Species C and D may be made without serious burden to the Examiner. Accordingly, restriction with respect to Species C and D for examination purposes is improper.

Group III:

Applicant also submits that Species C, E and F are directed to similar subject matter, and therefore a search for one species will necessarily overlap a search for the others.

At paragraphs [0097-0098], Applicant states that the embodiment of Figure 9 is an alternative of the second approach, referring to the embodiment of Figure 6.

At paragraph [0100], Applicant states that the embodiment of Figure 10 is an alternative of the second approach, referring to the embodiment of Figure 6.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Species C, E and F are so drawn to similar subject matter that a search and examination of the application including Species C, E and F may be made without serious burden to the Examiner. Accordingly, restriction with respect to Species C, E and F for examination purposes is improper.

Group IV:

In view of Groups II and III having commonality through Species C, Applicant submits that Species C, D, E and F are so drawn to similar subject matter that a search and examination of the application including Species C, D, E and F may be made without serious burden to the Examiner. Accordingly, restriction with respect to Species C, D, E and F for examination purposes is improper.

Group V:

Applicant yet further submits that Species A, B, C, D, E and F are all directed to similar subject matter, and therefore a search for one species will necessarily overlap a search for the others.

In Figures 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10, Applicant uses identical reference numerals to refer to the same features, such as for example reference numerals 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 (or elements

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associated with those reference numerals if not specifically enumerated). As such, Applicant submits that each Species includes similar subject matter.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Species A, B, C, D, E and F are so drawn to similar subject matter that a search and examination of the application including Species A, B, C, D, E and F may be made without serious burden to the Examiner. Accordingly, restriction with respect to Species A, B, C, D, E and F for examination purposes is improper.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicant herein elects Species-A directed to Figure 4, but with a specific request to at least include Species-B directed to Figure 5, and submits that Claims 1-31, 38-43, 45-50, 52, 54, 55, 57, 58, 61, 62 and 65-70 read on Species-A.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the Restriction Requirement dated April 18, 2007 is wholeheartedly traversed, and removal of the Requirement, at least with respect to the improper groupings noted above, is respectfully requested. As always, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any issues that remain.

Consideration and allowance of these claims are respectfully requested. The foregoing is believed to be fully responsive to this office action.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2513.

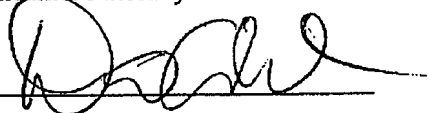
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In the event that an extension of time is required, or may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time that is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above identified Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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